

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEA-10 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

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DRAFTED BY EA/RA:CAPT WARREN:SLS

08-4/73 EXT. 20594

APPROVED BY EA/RA:MR. NETHERCUT

EA/RA: MS. ISOM

INR/REA: MR. BURNET (INFO)

DIA/IDS: COL. LARGER (INFO)

EA/PHL: MR. WILLNER

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P 041644Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 154214

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, PINR, SEATO

SUBJECT: SEATO - 2LST IAC MEETING: PHILIPPINE PAPER

FOR MR. SLOTT FROM CAPT. WARREN

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

REF: JCS WASH DC 091955Z MAY 73

1. THE PAPER CONTRIBUTED BY THE PHILIPPINES FOR AGENDA
ITEM 2, PART II, QUOTE DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THE
THREAT BY COUNTRIES, PHILIPPINES UNQUOTE, CONTAINS THREE
STATEMENTS WHICH WE ARE UNABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE WITH THE
INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US AT THIS TIME:

PAGE 1, PARA 2, LINES 17-19: QUOTE IT WAS PARTICULARLY
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SUCCESSFUL IN MINDANAO WHERE IT FORMED A UNITED FRONT

COMMITTEE WITH THE MUSLIM REBELS. UNQUOTE.

PAGE 2, PARA 4, LINES 13-13: QUOTE IN MINDANAO, NPA
ELEMENTS JOINED MUSLIM INSURGENTS AS COMBATANTS.
UNQUOTE.

PAGE 7, PARA 24, LINES 9-12: QUOTE THE CPP (MAOIST)
AND THE SEPARATIST MINDANAO INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT
RECENTLY ESTABLISHED A UNITED FRONT COMMITTEE AGAINST
MARTIAL LAW. UNQUOTE.

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES CONTINUES TO ATTEMPT
TO MAKE CASE THAT MUSLIM REBELLION IS COMMUNIST LED OR
INSPIRED. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT SUCH IS
THE CASE.

3. AS DISCUSSED IN THE REFTEL DATED MAY 9 (BEING REPEATED
SEPTTEL TO BANGKOK), ANY EFFORT WITHIN SEATO TO DEVELOP
AN INSURGENCY PLAN WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS BEING
DIRECTED PRIMARILY TOWARD MUSLIMS, IF DISCLOSED, WOULD
CAUSE CONSIDERABLE RESENTMENT AMONG MUSLIM NATIONS
WORLDWIDE. IN ADDITION, AGREEMENT TO SUCH A PLAN COULD
BE CONSTRUED BY THE GOP AS AGREEMENT ON PART OF U.S. THAT
MUSLIM REBELLION IS IN FACT INSPIRED OR LED BY COMMUNISTS.
CINCPAC WAS REQUESTED BY JCS TO ATTEMPT TO PREVENT ISSUE
FROM BEING PLACED ON AGENDA FOR THE SUCCEEDING MILITARY
ADVISORS MEETING, AND IF UNSUCCESSFUL, TO INDICATE THAT
THE USG WISHED TO REVIEW THE SEATO EXPERT STUDY GROUP (ESG)
REPORT ON COUNTER-INSURGENCY BEFORE COMMENTING ON THE
ISSUE.

4. WHILE WE DO NOT WISH A SEATO INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT
COMMITTEE REPORT TO BE ISSUED WHICH SUBSTANTIALLY UNDER-
WRITES GOP THESIS THAT MUSLIM INSURGENCY IS COMMUNIST LED
OR INSPIRED, WE ARE EQUALLY DISPOSED TO AVOID A DIRECT
CONFRONTATION IN MULTILATERAL FORUM WITH THE GOP WHICH
WOULD PROBABLY RESULT IF THE US REQUESTED THAT THESE
STATEMENTS BE DELETED.

5. WE RECOMMEND THEREFORE THAT YOU CONSULT WITH OTHER
COUNTRY DELEGATES TO DETERMINE THEIR POSITION ON THE
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REPORT. IF OBJECTIONABLE SENTENCES REMOVED BY ACTION
OF IAC, WITHOUT US TAKING INITIATIVE OR PROVOKING CON-
FRONTATION WITH GOP, US WOULD CONCUR IN REPORT.

6. IF THIS APPROACH NOT FEASIBLE, ONE ALTERNATIVE WOULD
BE TO PUBLISH REPORT WITH NOTATION THAT QUOTE DUE TO
INSUFFICIENT TIME TO ANALYZE PHILIPPINE DRAFT, IAC IS
UNABLE TO COMPLETE ASSESSMENT OF ITS CONTENTS. UNQUOTE

PLEASE KEEP US ADVISED, BY CABLE OR TELCON, IF FURTHER
GUIDANCE REQUIRED. ROGERS

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